### COAL OPERATORS

OF PITTSBURG DISTRICT HOLD A CONFERENCE.

Etghty-nine Coal companies Represented. The River Mines and Westmoreland Fields Were Not Represented-A Committee Appointed to Make Report on the Minority Report, Abuses the Conference an Withdraws.

Pittsburg, July 27.-Eighty-nine coal companies' mines located in the Pittsburg district were represented at the coal operators' uniformity meeting here today. The operators who ship by river and those owning mines in the Westmoreland field were not present. The river operators held a meeting at the coal exchange this afternoon and decided to take no part in the uniformity movement. No attention was paid to the call by the Westmoreland people. Very little was accomplished at the two | agreed upon if 50 per cent. of the dissessions today. The old uniformity trict operators would give their conagreement with the new clauses inserted were reported on by a committee and the meeting tomorrow will take up the agreement by clauses for discussion. Where changes in the conditions since 1896 warrant different provisions, committees will be appointed to draw up clauses that will cover the

points at issue. The only senstional incident of today's sessions occurred when Colonel W. P. Rend presented a minority report on the uniformity agreement, denouncing the procedure of the meeting in severe terms and bolting the con-

W. P. Murray called the meeting to order at 11:30 o'clock a. m., by nominating Alex Dempster for chairman. Colonel W. P. Rend named George W. Schleudeberg, but he declined and Mr. Dempster was chosen to preside.

General John Little was named vice president. He made a short address, saying the board was here as citizens and had no personal interest in the coal business. The members hope by conciliation and mediation to bring tending factions. "State lines have nothing to do with the question," he said. "You have the power here to set-

goes, so will go the other states." A committee was appointed to take up the proposed uniformity agreement revise it to suit the changed conditions since its first formulation and report to the conference at 3 o'clock. A recess

was then taken until 3 o'clock. At 4 o'clock the committee asked for another hour and the meeting took a committee reported the old uniformity preamble prepared by the visiting arbitrators. The report was read and Captain Strittler moved that it be received and the committee discharged.

Colonel Rend demanded recognition for the hearing of a minority report. He prefaced the report with a few remarks on what he termed the bunco intention of the meeting. Colonel Rend said he had been misled by General Little, as to the purpose of the meeting. He understood that it had been called with a view of hastening a settlement of the strike and was assured of that at a conference with the general on Monday night. When he got to the meeting he learned that the strike was not to be taken into consideration or discussed in connection with uni-

The preamble to the resolutions recites the earnest desire of the coal operators of western Pennsylvania to devise honorable methods to bring the strike to a termination, deplores the poverty and misery of the vast army them. If the conditions were different of miners and their families and claims that the public has been mislead by crafty and false statements as to the causes responsible for the present and past turmoil. The resolutions follows: Resolved, That we favor the speedy adjustment of this strike and all questions and controversies connected riches seem to exist and the whole therewith by conciliation employed in a joint conference of miners and their employers and that failing, by an adjucation by a tribunal of arbitrators composed of three United States judges or three other gentlemen of national repute and in whom the entire country can repose confidence.

Resolved, That we favor the principle and practice of uniformity in its true and honest sense, but we are unalterably opposed to it in the false, perverted sense in which it has been used to cloak sham schemes and transparent frauds.

Resolved, That we favor true and honest weights and measures, cash payments and all other just and equitable methods in the prosecution of the coal business.

Resolved, That we denounce as a foul falsehood and glaring outrage the charges and insinuations so often publicly made that general dishonesty has been practiced in weights and measures in the mining industry of western Pennsylvania.

Resolved, That the efforts to fasten on the public mind these slanderous and atrocious charges are a moral crime and that we denounce the guilty criminal, violating God's holy commandment: "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor."

Resolved, That we are ready and willing to advance the wages of the miners, but-find ourselves unable to do this to the full extent demanded by them viz: 20 per cent. advance on prices that were paid prior to the strike and now being paid by one of the largest coal companies in western Pennsylvania and which company presents the chief obstacle to the settlement of the present conflict.

After the resolutions had been read the chairman asked to have some portions eliminated, but the colonel refused emphatically to allow a single word to be dropped and after a short | Clammy, Esq., and C. P. Lockey, Esq., contention witherew from the conference. The meeting then adjourned until 10 o'clock tomorrow morning.

Colonel Rend took the minority report with him and Chairman Dempster decided that as Colonel Rend had left the meeting and taken the report with him, it was not part of the record of the session and could not be acted upon.

W. P. De Armitt said he wanted it dis tinctly understood that the call to adopt uniformity did not have anything to do with the strike, as he did not propose to arbitrate anything while under fire, nor admit that the operators

were cowards. Dr. Anderson advised that the report of the committee be taken up seriatim. An effort was made to do this but the operators did not seem to grasp the text of the agrement, so J. B.

tor by morning. This was carried unanimously.

Tonight General Little and Judge Owens are in secret conference at the Duquesne Club with Secretary William Warner and Organizer Cameron Miller. Nothing definite can be learned as to the subject under discussion, but it is believed it has reference to having the miners represented at the conference tomorrow as there seems to be considerable dissatisfaction with Mr. De Armitt's announcement today that Uniformity Plan-Colonel Rend Offers a | the conference has no connection with the strike and merely for the purpose of establishing uniformity. Many of the operators thing with Colonel Rend, that the meeting should devise some means to settle the strike as well as to provide for uniformity.

Reports to the miners' officials from throughout the district show everything quiet. All plans are being held in abeyance pending the action of the

Tonight General Little and others called on Colonel Rend at his hotel and asked that he reconsider his action and enter the conference again to ensure success of the meeting. He replied that he would cordially indorse and cooperate in any plan the conference sent to the same. He believes it impossible to secure 97 per cent. for uniformity as Mr. De Armitt demands,

and is willing to do as 50 per cent. of

the operators wish. The new preamble to the old uniformity agreement relates to the existing condition of affairs in the Pittsburg district and the lack of profit there is in the coal trade. It states that uniformity if properly and promptly availed of, will settle these differences to a large extent and correct the abuses to a degree not hitherto attainable.

#### A MAD RUSH FOR GOLD.

A Wilmington Man Writes From Seattle About the Excitement Over the Rich Discoveries on Klondyke River-Everybody Wants to Go to the New Eldorado. It Requires \$500 for the Trip

Mr. Frank L. Meares, formerly of Wilmington, but now a resident of Seattle, writes to a friend under date of July 19th, the following interesting letter oncerning the Alaska gold fever:

"The greatest excitement has preabout a settlement between the con- vailed here for the past two or three days owing to the arrival of the steamer Portland, from Alaska, with nearly tle this controversy. As Pittsburg a million dollars in gold dust from the mines. About ten days ago another steamer went through to San Francisco with over \$700,000 in gold dust, but not until the Portland come in here, have the people realized the wonderful wealth accumulated by these fortunate miners in a few months, and given way to the intense excitement second recess until 5 o'clock when the that such things, naturally, produce. To say that every one is excited puts agreement with the new clauses and the case in mild language, for this hardly conveys the true condition. Men women and children think or talk of nothing else.

"A large number left yesterday on one of the steamers for the gold fields and many more are preparing to go This exodus is not confined to those who simply fly to new fields of work whenever an opportunity offers itself, for this trip cannot be undertaken except at considerable expense and with great hardships while living in this modern El Dorado.

"The trip costs \$500, that is, you are obliged to take with you food and clothing to last at least a year, and the physical hardships to be endured in making the trip are something awfulbut others have gone and made fortunes—why not those who are here? Lawyers, physicians, merchants, clerks and all classes of working men have the 'fever' and are preparing to go, who can afford to make the start or who can get others to 'grub-stake -that is, if the trials and expense of reaching the gold fields were not so great, the Pacific slope from Victoria to Vera Cruz would soon be on its way to Alaska. These finds are on the Klondyke rive in Northwest Territory B. C., but all through Alaska these country up there seems to be a veritable gold mine."

### THE CRIMINAL COURT.

The Case Against Fletcher Thompson and Henry Styron on Trial the Second Time. It Took all the Afternoon to get a Jury The Argument to Take Place this Morn

Pursuant to adjournment for recess on Monday evening, the criminal court met yesterday at 9:30 a. m., and disposed of the following cases: States vs. Amos Jones, larceny, no

prossed. State vs. Mag Patrick, slander, con-

State vs. Zack Simmons, larceny, verdict guilty. Sentenced to twelve months in the state penitentiary.

State vs. Wm. Williams, carrying concealed deadly weapon, defendant submitted. Sentenced to six months in the county house of correction. The author of this accusation as a moral county commissioners were authorized with promptness failed of recognition o hire him out.

State vs. T. F. Bell, larceny, continued by consent.

At 2:30 p. m. the court took up for another hearing the case of the State against Fletcher Thompson and Henry Styron, charged with sending in a false alarm of fire. Solicitor M. C. Richardson at the trial on Friday and Saturday was assisted by David B. Sutton, Esq., but yesterday Marsden Bellamy, Esq., was employed by the city to assist the solicitor. The defendants' ounsel at the first trial were Herbert Mcand in this trial Jno. D. Bellamy, Esq., is associated with them. It took the whole afternoon to select the jury, which was finally completed as follows: Robert Sweat, John Quince, H. Newkirk, H. T. Stanlin, Geo. Washington, W. H. Galloway, Nelson Dickson, Geo, E. Nixon, Jacob Leonard, J. S. Blocker, W. R. Slocumb, L. H. Brittain. Eight of the jurors are colored

and four are white. At 6 p. m. the court took a recess til 9:30 o'clock this morning, when the argument will begin. -

Now that the resignation of Presi-Zerbe moved that copies of the agree-ment be printed over night and a copy be sure to come with a rush,—Wash-be placed in the hands of each opera-ington Post.

## FRUITS OF THE VICTORY.

SECRETARY GAGE TALKS TARIFF AND FINANCIAL REFORM.

One Pledge of the Administration Carried Out Causing "Prosperity to Bring Comfort and Restoration"-The Other Pledge to be Kept-Failure of Congress to Pass the Monetary Commission Bill Deplored Hints of Action Without Such Bill.

Beston, July 27.-The dinner of Boston business men to Secretary Gage at the Tuileries this afternoon was attended by about 150 of the leading men in the professional and commercial life in the city. An informal reception was held preceding the dinner which occurred at 2:45 o'clock. Among those present were William C. Lovering, who presided; Governor Wolcott, Mayor Quincy, Hon. Charles S. Hamlin, ex-assistant secretary of the treasury; T. Jefferson Coolridge, ex-United States ambassador to France; Hon. J. R. Leeson, William B. Rice, Jr., and many others. On being introduced Sec-

"We have met here in a period fraught with its own interests.

retary Gage said in part:

"Opposing forces met in November last and contended bitterly over the most vital of economic questions. While the issue was pending the profitable arts of industry came to nearly a standstill. Trade and commerce declined to the narrowest limits and in a breathless suspense those who could comprehend the deep import of the issue waited for its determination. That issue is now decided. The ballot, magic exponent of the popular will, has recorded its imperative voice for honest money and for liberty regulated by law. It now remains to be seen whether from that decision there is to be any successful appeal. It is this that gives interest, anxious interest, to the prospective action of those who, cloathed with legislative and executive functions, have it in their power to make secure the fruits of victory or who, by failing to comprehend their high responsibility, may let slip the advan-

ages so hardly won. "Upon the possible doubts involved in this question, men of enterprise still hesitate, and the columns of industry march slowly with ranks not yet complearly filled. Is there room for doubt in so plain a proposition? There ought to be none. There would be none except for the working of that principle of human nature which coaxes us to ease after effort-which induces us to contemplate rather than act-that spirit of inactivity which on more than one occasion kept the armies of the union from annihilating the enemy and confident columns as to turn them back from the easy capture of our capital. Logical as the duty of the government seems to be, do not yourselves supinely rest upon conclusion that it will certainly be performed. We have passed through a wearisome storm. The loss and cost of it has been enormous; but today the skies are fair, the breeze of prosperity brings comfort and restoration. Shall we not be permitted to rest and enjoy it? No. That would be to foolishly wait for, if not to invite, further disaster in the future. The final answer, however, must depend upon the urgency or the indifference of the people.

The administrative brauch of the government will not sleep nor rest inactive. Its influence has been and will be for prompt and judicious action. The evidence of this fact is fresh at hand in the message just now submitted to congress by the president." Mr. Gage here quoted several paragraphs from the message. Continuing

he said: "But the administration cannot make laws. It can only execute them after they are made. It is then to the legislative body that our thoughtful attention is to be given if you desire financial reforms. Your senators and representatives will not consciously antagonize your well considered desires, but they must be informed and constantly reminded of what it is that you demand.

"And now what is it that ought to be done to give security and protection to the future? To this there are many answers and to every answer many objectors. We have indeed delicate and difficult problem to solve; the difficulty being aggravated by the fact that ignorance, prejudice and passion enter in to complicate and vex the solution. This in one of the penalties which popular government must pay in return for its multifarious and eminent benefits. With these drawbacks we can, nevertheless, with patience, find our way. The recommendation of the president for a commission was admirable in this, that it suggested a way by which a body of well trained and thoughtful men could be provided to consider, at leisure without distraction from other pressing themes, the important subject of currency and banking reform. It, at the same time opened a forum to which could be admitted every contributive suggestion from all classes and conditions of men.

"That the bill which passed the house in the senate may be a matter of regret, but not one for discouragement. What might have been accomplished through a commission may be achieved without one. Nor ought we to speak or think unkindly of a body which has so assiduously toiled in the work of a new law concerning a matter so charged with conflicting opinions and opposing interests as is any tariff act. The two questions before the country in the last political campaign were the tariff and the currency. One of them is already settled. Whatever the merits or demerits of the new measure in its particular items, it has become the law of the land. The revenues derived from it will, after a possible brief interregnum, be ample for proper government expenditures.

"The responsible party in power having successfully achieved this one important issue may be safely trusted to care equally well for the other. On the financial side there is really no pressing need for haste. There is certainly no immediate occasion for anxiety. With ample reserve in the public treasury; with financial centres in a full supply of leasable funds; with interest invitingly low; with crop prospects most promising and a good market favorably assured; with new mineral resources coming into view; with a territorial area sufficient to carry its present population many times multiplied; with a people advancing in the elements of intelligence and character, who dare indulge in doleful forecasts? dent Andrews has been forced because We need not ignore the fact that there are many wounds to be cured, excited passions to be calmed and many mis-understandings to be composed. Nor

is it passing strange that this should be so. Within the limits of half a life time, industrial methods and processes have been revolutionized; combinations in labor, in trade, in manufacture, have superseded to a degree the former process of individual movement. It is philosophical to believe that they are all revolutionary-tending to a final and higher good, but in their immediate effects, they produce incidental injury in many directions. Perceiving the injury, the hurt cry out and cannot be persuaded that any good can come out of so great an evil. Time will do much to restore and natural laws, everywhere operating, will bring in at last their compensation. In the meantime out statute laws must learn-not to repress the operation of a natural law which is supreme over man-made laws-but they must learn to justly check and punish those who, grasping the new elements of power, pervert them into a means of injustice and oppression. The problems of a democrat ic society rapidly developing in all directions are many and troublesome. They must be met with patience. We must not lose faith nor abate in courage, 'With malice toward none, with charity for all,' each unit in the mighty organism must bring to their solution the best that is in him of virtue and intelligence. Upon the wise and great the duty weighs with corresponding force, but upon the humble and weak also it presses according to their measure of the responsibility.'

### ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION.

A Lady of Halifax County Fired Upon While Sleeping-A Dead Infant Found. Convicts Sent to Carthage Railread. (Correspondence of The Messenger.)

Weldon, N. C., July 27. Mrs. Rebecca Richardson, a widow living near Essex in this county, was fired upon by an unknown would-beassassin a few nights ago, and was slightly wounded. She was asleep at the time and the villain fired through the window. The ball inflicted a scalp

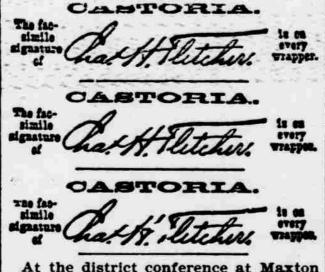
Fisherman while dragging seins in the upper end of Halifax county brought out the dead body of a white infant. It is supposed to be a case of infanticide.

Captain W. J. Bradshaw left today for Carthage with 100 convicts for work road. The convicts are taken from the Northampton state farms. The crops are all laid by and these convicts will not be needed here again until cotton picking time. .

Refuse to Furnish Plates for Warships Washington, July 27.-The armor producing companies, having declined to furnish the navy department the ar mor needed for the three battleships now building, at the price of \$300 per on anoher occasion so paralyzed the ton, fixed by congress, Secretary Long has taken the second step in the line marked out by congress and has called upon the shipbuilding companies them selves to submit propositions for procuring and fitting the armor. One of them, the Union Iron Works, of San Francisco, has already responded declining, like the armor companies, the department's invitation. There is little doubt that the others will make a like answer, although there is a small chance that some of the shipbuilding companies may combine to secure the control of one of the plants, which the armor makers profess their readiness to sell, and turn out the armor they need for the ships in their hands. If however, as is expected, all of the shipbuilders' replies are unfavorable, Secretary Long will proceed one step further and appoint a board of officers to carry out the direction of congress and frame a plan for the establishment of a government armor plant.

#### The Inquiry as to Fraud in Lease of N. C Railway.

(Special to The Messenger.) Raleigh, N. C., July 27.-The question of whether there was any fraud in the lease of the North Carolina railway was heard before Kerr Craig today at Salisbury. After hearing the evidence there was an adjournment until Au-



At the district conference at Maxton last week, Dr. Kilgo, of Trinity college, delivered his address on "Christian Education," and handled the university with gloves off. A resolution of thanks was voted him for his eloquent address, but there was a dissenting voter, in the person of Rev. Jesse H. Page, of Aberdeen, a Godly man who has the courage of his convictions. All honor to him for his fearless stand in behalf of the university.-Carthage Blade.

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### THE GOLD EXCITEMENT

EXTENDING FROM STANLEY INTO ROWAN COUNTY.

A Federal Soldier Sends a Present to a Confederate who Saved Him From a Horrible Death in 1864 - The County Officers' Convention Ridiculed by the Alliance Organ-Tramps put to Work on the Roads-The Greensboro Silk Mill.

Messenger Bureau, Park Hotel. Raleigh, N. C., July 27.

The state treasurer today issued a call for statements by all state banks as to their condition up to July 23rd.

The military company at Oxford (E. Third regiment) goes into camp next month with the confederate veterans of Granville.

Miss Elsie Riddick, of Gates county, is appointed stenographer and type writer to the agricultural department. The ruling of the commissioner of internal revenue that the new law regarding tax on tobacco went into effect July 23rd will complicate matters as cigarette stamps were sold on the

24th in this district at the old price. Jesse Snatherly, a confederate soldier from Montgomery county, in 1864 saved the life of a federal soldier during a battle in which the woods had caught fire. He provided the wounded man with water and gave him his name. Now comes the sequel. The federal sends the confederate \$800 as a gift.

The annual meeting of the Farmers' State Alliance will be held at Hillsboro, August 10th. Efforts have been made to have the date changed, on account of the school tax election, which will be held that day, but President Graham decides against any change.

The organ of the state alliance ridicules the county officers' convention at Morehead City which began today, saying it is a "school to practice how to get office and hold it without slipping a cog."

It is said that under the new law no pictures or coupons can be put in cigarette boxes or in smoking tobacco packages and the statement it made paratory Courses. Library 20,000 volumes. of employment.

The "gold fever" has spread from Stanly county into Rowan. Some good finds are being made. It is asserted that the opposition to

The state firemen's tournament at Fayetteville promises to be a handsome affair. Seventeen companies will take

the public school special tax is increas-

Senator Pritchard is now at his home, completely worn out after the senate's

fatiguing session. West of here all tramps are being picked up and sent to work on the roads. Some of the local officials here say that tramps cannot be arrested simply because they, are tramps. Yesterday a white man and a woman of the lowest type were arrested near here, for outrageous behavior at the public park. The man attempted to run and a constable brought him down by a shot in the thigh. He is in the

hospital and the woman is in jail. Some of the machinery for the silk mill at Greensboro (a branch of the great Paterson mill) is arriving. Next week it begins work, and will employ 200 persons, all natives of the Greens-

boro section. Artist Randall has nearly completed the portraits (life size group, standing) of Colonels Vance, Burgwyn and Lane, of the Twenty-sixth North Carolina regiment. They are represented as standing in a road, while a regiment is breaking camp.

# CRIMINAL ASSAULTS.

Resolutions Adopted by a Colored Baptist Association in Virginia.

Richmond, Va., July 27.-The Banister Baptist Association (colored), at a meeting held Friday evening at Houston adopted the following resolutions: We the members of the Banister Baptist Association, assembled in its twenty-sixth annual session at Hous-

ton, Halifax county, Virginia, having noticed with regret the great number of arrests of men in our race in various parts of the southland for the most dastardly, cowardly and infamous crime known to society; namely, outrageous assault upon defenceless women, and

Whereas, This infamy has, according to daily reports, increased in an alarming degree and threatens to create and perpetuate the greatest alienation of the whites and blacks and is also destined, if not stamped out by the good and lawabiding citizens of both races, to cause the inoffensive and lawabiding citizens of our own race to suffer in

various ways. Therefore be it Resolved, That we stamp our most emphatic condemnation upon any and all of this wretched and infamous class who have been or may be found or known to have committed such an outrage against society and pledge our willingness to co-operate with the whites to bring to justice any and all who have or may be guilty of such a revolting crime.

Resolved, That we as pastors and leaders among our people will do all in our power to create among our people the strongest sentiment against the crime and the criminal and urge them to do all in their power to assist in bringing to justice such lawless characters, be they within or without the race, who are such a curse to human-

Resolved. That we commend the governor of Virginia for his heroic stand in throwing the strong arm of the law around those charged with crime and thereby permitting the majesty of the law to be upheld, which law in itself is sufficient to mete out full justice and punishment to those who have or may attempt to outrage it.

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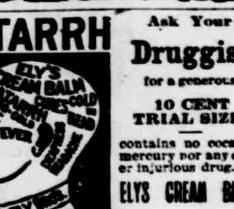
Mr. Wheeler (reading the paper)-Goodness! There's another outrage. Mrs. Wheeler-What is it?

Mr. Wheeler-Why, the aldermen have passed a resolution permitting pedestrians to use six more streets, a cent for the priv ... - Puck.



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